

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 6470-008]

Winooski Hydroelectric Company; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental

Assessment

On July 30, 2021, Winooski Hydroelectric Company filed an application for a subsequent license to continue operating the existing 856-kilowatt Winooski 8 Hydroelectric Project No. 6470 (Winooski 8 Project or project). The project is located on the Winooski River in Washington County, Vermont. The project does not occupy federal land.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, on January 4, 2023, Commission staff issued a notice that the project was ready for environmental analysis (REA notice). Based on the information in the record, including comments filed on the REA notice, staff does not anticipate that licensing the project would constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, staff intends to prepare a single Environmental Assessment (EA) on the application to license the Winooski 8 Project.

The EA will be issued and circulated for review by all interested parties. All comments filed on the EA will be analyzed by staff and considered in the Commission's final licensing decision.

The application will be processed according to the following schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

MILESTONE TARGET DATE

Commission issues EA
Comments on EA
September 2023¹
October 2023

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Kristen Sinclair at (202) 502-6587, or kristen.sinclair@ferc.gov.

¹The Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations under 40 CFR 1501.10(b)(1) require that EAs be completed within 1 year of the federal action agency's decision to prepare an EA. This notice establishes the Commission's intent to prepare an EA for the Moretown Project. Therefore, in accordance with CEQ's regulations, the Final EA must be issued within 1 year of the issuance date of this notice.

Dated: March 17, 2023.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese, *Deputy Secretary.*

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